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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WHITE HOUSE SUPPORT STAFF

Date: July 12, 1974
Item No.: WH #1

DIRECTOR: WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: MILITARY SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM

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Fighting is light in most parts of the country. In the central highlands, however, a government operation which began on July 2 in Dar Lac Province against Communist units west of Ban Me Thuot has met increased resistance. Contact with several of the South Vietnamese units has been lost.

There are reports that fresh Communist units are being brought into the Ben Cat area north of Saigon to attack government military bases and inflict heavy casualties on South Vietnamese units. Other reports suggest that increased action on this front will be timed to coincide

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with South Vietnamese provincial council elections this Sunday.

There has been no official confirmation of press reports that heavy government air strikes have been conducted against Communist areas along the Cambodian border north and west of Saigon. Government commando raids and air strikes reportedly have succeeded in cutting the Communist oil pipeline along the border in the western highlands.